



NEWS RELEASE

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Former Insurance Agent Pleads to Elder Theft

A former insurance agent accused of illegally withdrawing more than \$100,000 from an insurance annuity he sold to an elderly relative pleaded no contest today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Tina Hooks of the Elder Abuse Section said Myles Seishin Hanashiro, 47 (dob 8/11/66), of Orange pleaded no contest to one misdemeanor count of theft from an elder.

Under the terms of a negotiated plea agreement, Hanashiro paid the victim \$110,760 in restitution. The defendant was immediately sentenced to three years probation; 12 days of time served in county jail; and 100 hours of community service.

Additionally, Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Michael Garcia ordered the defendant not to act or practice as a life insurance agent while he is on probation.

Prosecutors said Hanashiro sold an annuity to his elderly aunt in 2005. After losing his insurance license in 2009, the defendant allegedly began dipping into the 78-year-old woman's life insurance annuity, purportedly forging her signature on documents to withdraw a total of \$110,760.

The alleged theft took place between April 2, 2009, and April 20, 2010. The case was investigated by the California Department of Insurance.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.